Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the specification:

Claims.

1. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition for sustained release, comprising:

as active ingredient pitavastatin or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein said composition comprising a core consisting of an inner phase (internal) and an outer phase (external) wherein the outer phase does not comprise a matrix former and wherein the core is first coated with a non functional film coat and then with an enteric coat.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The composition according to claim ~~1wherein~~ 1, wherein the amount of pitavastatin or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof is about 1-50 weight % of the core composition.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The composition according to claim ~~1-2~~ 2, wherein the amount of pitavastatin or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof is about 5-50 weight % of the core composition.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The composition according to ~~anyone of claims 1-3~~ claim 1, wherein the amount of pitavastatin or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof is about 1-32mg.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The composition according to ~~anyone of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, wherein the inner phase comprises a matrix former.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The composition according to claim 5, wherein the matrix former comprises one or more types of matrix former component having different viscosities.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The composition according to claim ~~4 or 6~~ 5, wherein the matrix former is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene glycol, polyvinylpyrrolidone, polyvinyl alcohol, hydrophilic polymers such as hydroxypropylcellulose, hydroxymethylcellulose, and hydroxypropylmethylcellulose ~~or the like~~.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The composition according to claim 7, wherein the matrix former is hydroxypropylmethylcellulose (HPMC).

9. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The composition according to claim 8 wherein the amount of HPMC as a matrix former is about 1-60 weight % (based on the total core components).

10. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The composition according to claim 9, wherein the matrix former of the inner phase has a viscosity of about 1 to about 100.000 cps.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The composition according to claim 9, wherein the matrix former of the inner phase has a viscosity of about 1 to about 500 cps.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The composition according to ~~anyone of claims 1-11~~ claim 1, wherein said composition comprises a stabilizer.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The composition according to claim 12, wherein the stabilizer is magnesium aluminometasilicate (neusilin).

14. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The composition according to claim13, wherein the amount of the stabilizer is about 1-15 weight % (based on the total core components).

15. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The composition according to ~~claims 1 to 14~~ claim 1, wherein the non- functional coat consists in Hydroxypropylmethylcelluloce, Polyethyleneglycol, titanium dioxide and talc.

16. (Currently Amended) A The composition according to ~~claims 1 to 15~~ claim 1, wherein the amount of non functional film coat is used at about 4 mg of film coat pro cm^2.

17. (Currently Amended) A The composition according to claim 1 ~~claims 1 to 16~~, wherein the enteric coat consists ~~in Eudragit L30D (methacrylic copolymer)~~ of metharcrylic copolymer, talc and polyethyleneglycol.

18. (Currently Amended) A The composition according to claim 1 ~~anyone of claims 1 to 17~~, wherein the enteric coat is used at 4 to 6 mg polymer pro cm^2.

19. A method of treatment of hyperlipidemia, hypercholesterolemia and atherosclerosis, as well as other diseases or conditions in which HMG-CoA reductase is implicated, comprising:

administering to a patient in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a composition according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 18~~.

20. (Canceled).